



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#12
LIT
2-11-03

Applicant : Walbeck et al.

) Group Art Unit 2155

Appl. No. : 09/235,084

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Filed : January 21, 1999

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR UNIVERSAL DATA
EXCHANGE GATEWAY

) January 29, 2003
) (Date)

) *Lee W. Henderson*
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Examiner : Khanh Q. Dinh

RESPONSE TO THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

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Technology Center 2100

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2002, Applicants respectfully submit the following comments in connection with the above-captioned application.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following remarks. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Rejection of Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 19-25, 27, 28 and 31 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 19-25, 27, 28 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,787,247 to Norin et al. (hereinafter "Norin"). Norin teaches a distributed database system, not a gateway configured to allow multiple nodes on a computer network to communicate using one or more protocols. In Norin, the data in the database is conventional database data (e.g., employee records, billing records, etc.) not information about the nodes. Norin does not teach or suggest an internal node database comprising information about nodes on a network. Moreover, Norin teaches database servers as